

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1197

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 2040

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: THE COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT: SPC MEETING APRIL 14

REF: STATE 83877

1. SPC ON APRIL 14 AGREED ON DRAFT GUIDANCE TO AHG ON HOW THE COMMON CEILING WOULD BE COMPLIED WITH, AS UK AGREED TO DROP THE INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE WHICH THE U.S. HAD OPPOSED, AND AS BELGIUM AGREED TO ACCEPT THE U.S. PARA ON THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR COMPLAINTS WITH A NOTE FOR INFORMATION OF AHG TO REFUSE TO BE DRAWN INTO DETAILED DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST ON THIS POINT. THE NAC WILL CONSIDER THIS DRAFT GUIDANCE ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16. THE DRAFT GUIDANCE COMPLIES WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTTEL, AND PREVIOUS MESSAGES, AND MISSION REQUIRES NO FURTHER WASHINGTON INSTRUCTIONS. THE TEXT OF THE SPC DRAFT GUIDANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT

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LEGAL AND PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT

ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE A
DETERMINED EFFORT TO CONVINCE THE WARSAW PACT OF THE LEGAL

AND PRACTICAL FEASIBILITY OF THE COMMON CEILING. TO THIS
END, THEY ARE AUTHORISED TO DRAW ON THE ARGUMENTS IN THE
FOLLOWING FORMULATION AND PRESENT ALL OR PART OF IT TO THE
WARSAW PACT, TAKING CARE TO POINT OUT THAT IT IS ILLUSTRATIVE

(A) AS ALREADY STATED, THE ALLIES ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER IN THE
EVENT OF A SATISFACTORY FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT A COMMITMENT THAT
THE WESTERN CONTRIBUTION TO THE REDUCTIONS WHICH WOULD RESULT
IN A COMMON CEILING ON OVERALL GROUND FORCE MANPOWER OF EACH SIDE
WOULD INCLUDE REDUCTIONS OF THE GROUND FORCES PERSONNEL OF ALL
DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS.

(B) THE WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD JOINTLY UNDERTAKE TO
ENSURE THAT THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OF GROUND FORCES MANPOWER IN THE
WESTERN PART OF THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS DID NOT EXCEED THE
AGREED COMMON CEILING AFTER THE COMPLETION OF REDUCTIONS.

(C) THE EASTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD JOINTLY UNDERTAKE
TO ENSURE THAT THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OF GROUND FORCE MANPOWER IN
THE EASTERN PART OF THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS DID NOT EXCEED
THE AGREED COMMON CEILING AFTER THE COMPLETION OF REDUCTIONS.

(D) THESE COMMITMENTS WOULD BE MADE SUBJECT TO AGREED
EXCEPTIONS FOR ACCOMMODATING CURRENT MILITARY
PRACTICES, SUCH AS ROTATIONS AND EXERCISES.

(E) A PERSON OR BODY WOULD BE DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE,
ON BEHALF OF ALL WESTERN PARTICIPANTS, ANY
QUESTION OR OBJECTIONS RAISED BY THE WARSAW
PACT WITH RESPECT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THE COMMON
CEILING. THE WARSAW PACT WOULD IN TURN AGREE TO
A SIMILAR DESIGNATION.

(FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE AD HOC GROUP:

(1) ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND THE GENERAL FORMULATION
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IN (E) ABOVE WHICH IS DESIGNED AS AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION OF TO
WHOM COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED, AND SHOULD REFUSE TO BE
DRAWN BY THE EAST INTO ANY DETAILED DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE INSTITU-
TIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. FURTHER ALLIANCE STUDY WILL BE REQUIRED
ON THIS ISSUE WHEN MORE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE FORM AND CONTENT OF
EVENTUAL MBFR AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING ASSOCIATED MEASURES.

(2) ALLIED NEGOTIATORS ARE REMINDED OF THE IMPORTANCE OF
CONTINUING TO PRESS THE EAST, AS THEY DEEM APPROPRIATE, ON
AN EXCHANGE OF DATA.)

END TEXT

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